

they can continue their studies when their families are on the road. President Clinton has allocated more cash for education programs as well as job training projects that give kids (and adults) alternatives to the fields. There have also been efforts to make parents aware of the dangers of farmwork and the importance of keeping kids in school.

Ultimately, though, migrant teens and their families will find it a rough road to hoe, says Mull. Major improvement in conditions would mean, among other things, paying adult pickers more so there would be less pressure to make kids work. But increasing wages could raise produce prices—and few consumers relish the idea of shelling out more money for a head of lettuce. Maybe if people understood the plight of migrant teens, they'd be willing to pay a few extra bucks a year to help, but, as Janie says, migrants are pretty much invisible to many Americans. "I've met people who are running the country who don't know about the migrant life," says Janie. "Most people don't even know we exist."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 8, 1999

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on November 4th, I was unavoidably detained from casting rollcall vote 569.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 569.

HONORING OUR NATION'S VETERANS ON VETERANS' DAY

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 8, 1999

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the millions of Americans who served and sacrificed for our country in wars all over the world. This week we celebrate Veterans' Day in thousands of ceremonies across America, including several in the 1st Congressional District of Arkansas which I was so proud to represent.

November 11 was originally the day commemorating the 1918 armistice that ended World War I. The original Armistice Day celebrated the signing of the armistice between the Allies and the Central Powers at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. The first commemorative ceremony was held when an American soldier was buried in the Arlington National Cemetery at the same time as a British soldier was buried in Westminster Abbey and a French soldier was buried at the Arc de Triomphe. In 1954, following World War II and the Korean Conflict, Armistice Day became known as Veterans Day. Realizing that peace was equally preserved by veterans of WW II and Korea, Congress was requested to make this day an occasion to honor those who have served America in all wars.

Many times we have asked our veterans to put their lives on hold, to leave their families to serve their country and protect our freedoms. Because of their strength and courage, all Americans enjoy the ideals of democracy.

On Veterans Day, it is important to remember that our Nation owes a commitment to our veterans every day of the year. We salute the millions of Americans who, because of their courage, have given us the freedom that we all enjoy. These heroes sacrificed for love of country, not only answering the call of our flag, but also honoring its meaning. Veterans' Day is a time for all Americans to remember their extraordinary commitment that has made our country the greatest nation that has ever been.

On this Veterans Day, we should all express our sincere thanks to our fellow Americans who valiantly served abroad in the U.S. Armed Forces. We should all reflect on the pride we share in the men and women who have kept our Nation free and strong.

DECEPTIVE MAIL PREVENTION AND ENFORCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 2, 1999

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have played a part in the House consideration and markup of the Honesty in Sweepstakes Act of 1999. Last month, the Subcommittee on the Postal Service marked up H.R. 170, and unanimously approved an amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by the ranking minority member congressman FATTAH and chairman MCHUGH. Our bill which closely mirrors sweepstakes legislation passed by the Senate in August would:

Impose disclosure requirements relating to sweepstakes mailings and skills contests (contests in which a prize is awarded based on skill, and a purchase, payment, or donation is required) concerning rules, terms, conditions, sponsor, place of business of sponsor, odds of winning, and other information to help ensure the consumer has complete information about the contest;

Prohibit mailings that suggest a connection to the federal government, or that contain false representations implying that federal government benefits or services will be affected by participation or nonparticipation in the contest;

Require that copies of checks sent in any mailing must include a statement on the check itself stating that it is nonnegotiable and has no cash value;

Require certain disclosures to be clearly and conspicuously displayed in certain parts of the sweepstakes and skill contest promotions;

Require sweepstakes companies to maintain individual do-not-mail lists;

Give the Postal Service additional environment tools to investigate and stop deceptive mailings, including the authority to impose civil penalties and subpoena authority;

Require that companies adopt reasonable practices and procedures to prevent the mailing of materials on sweepstakes or skills contests to individuals who have written to the companies requesting not to receive such mailings;

Establish a private right of action in state court for consumers who receive follow-up mailings despite having requested removal from a mailer's list; and

Establish a federal floor above which states could enact more restrictive requirements.

H.R. 170 adds two very important and critical provisions consumer protection provisions. First, we provided the Postal Service with subpoena authority to combat sweepstakes fraud. In addition, we have limited the scope of subpoena authority to only those provisions of law addressing deceptive mailings, and required the Postal Service to develop procedures for the issuance of subpoenas.

The second provision contains language authored by the ranking minority member, Congressman FATTAH which added a private right of action to sweepstakes legislation. This provision now a part of H.R. 170, would allow consumers to file suit in state court if a sweepstakes promoter continues to send mailings despite having requested removal from a mailer's list. This important enforcement tool, contained in section 8 of H.R. 170, is supported by the National Consumers League, the American Association of Retired Persons and the Direct Marketing Association.

The issue of consumer protection, whether it relates to telemarketing fraud or sweepstakes deception is finally receiving the attention it deserves and I am pleased we have provided additional consumer protection along this line.

I would be remiss if I did not thank my colleagues who have sponsored honesty in sweepstakes legislation in the House. Special recognition deserves to go to the authors of H.R. 170, Congressmen LOBIONDO and CONDIT. Their diligence has ensured a bipartisan bill. I would also like to acknowledge the support of Congressman BLAGOJEVICH, himself the sponsor of sweepstakes legislation, H.R. 2731, the Consumer Choice and Sweepstakes Control Act.

Special recognition goes to the State of New York, Office of the Attorney General, the National Association of Attorneys General, the Federal Trade Commission, National Consumers League, the American Association of Retired Persons, Direct Marketing Association, the Postal Service Inspector General, and Courtney Cook, of the minority staff. Your hard work, input and support have been appreciated.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for being gracious and working with us to achieve a bipartisan bill.

MEDICARE, MEDICAID, AND SCHIP BALANCED BUDGET REFINEMENT ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 1999

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my opposition to the process by which we are considering some of the most important legislation that this House will debate during this session of Congress—the Medicare, Medicaid and Schip Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 1999. As a member of the Commerce Committee, I would have liked to have had the opportunity to fully debate the Medicare, Medicaid and SCHIP changes that this legislation makes. Particularly, in light of the impact the Balanced Budget Act has had on Illinois hospitals.